(b) to what extent the debt burden has been minimised and the progress achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRIBRAJ KISHORETRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has not specifically borrowed for modernisation projects during the last three years, as the same have been completed. However, borrowings allocated for modernisation projects during the last four years is as under:

(Rs. in Crores)

As on	Borrowing allocated for modernisation of Rourkela, Durgapurand Bokaro Steel Plants
31.3.2002	3544
31.3.2001	3661
31.3.2000	3795
31.3.1999	7825

During the period 1999-2000 to 2001 -2002, a reduction of Rs. 7005 crores in the total borrowings of SAIL has been achieved, which includes borrowing on account of modernisation of Rourkela, Durgapur and Bokaro Steel Plants.

Revival package for IISCO

1904. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether SAIL's revival proposal for IISCO envisaged grant of Rs. 200 crore for meeting cash loss;

(b) whether the same has not been approved by Government;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor, when IISCO is facing acute shortage of working capital and its day-to-day operation are in jeopardy;

(d) whether SAIL has approached Government to reconsider their decision; and

(e) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) to (c) In the revival proposal

submitted by SAIL, a grant of Rs. 200 crores was envisaged for meeting cash losses during construction period. However, Government did not concur with the same.

(d) and (e) SAIL has asked for additional reliefs and concessions from the Government, which are under consideration.

Enquiry into modernisation of RSP

1905. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had ordered an enquiry into the alleged corruption in respect of modernisation of Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) involving Rs. 5000 and odd crore;

(b) whether the Enquiry Committee submitted its report six months ago:

(c) if so, whether a copy of the findings of the Enquiry Committee would be laid on the Table of the House; and

(d) whether it is a fact that Additional Chief Vigilance Officer of Rourkela Steel Plant who was entrusted with the job of assisting this Enquiry Committee, was in charge of the biggest package in the said modernisation'?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORETRIPATHY): (a) to (c) An Enquiry Committee was constituted to look into the implementation of Rourkela and Durgapur Steel Plant modernisation projects. The Committee submitted its report on 19th February. 2002. Thereafter, Ministry of Steel had asked SAIL to furnish its comments on the conclusions arrived at by the Enquiry Committee and the feasibility of implementation of recommendations made by it. SAIL s comments on the report of the Enquiry Committee have been received recently. Till the Ministry finalises its view, it may not be appropriate to place a copy of the findings on the Table of the House.

(d) Additional Chief Vigilance Officer, RSP was not entrusted with job of assisting the Enquiry Committee. The enquiry Committee did not have any interaction/correspondence with ACVO.